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thought of him, and his replies are in numerous instances sharp and adequate.

We should be glad to know that the letter files, from which Mr. Foraker has produced the numerous valuable letters that are printed here, were to be available for further historical use. Hanna left no archive, and Mr. Croly, his biographer, fell into numerous errors as a result — particularly in ascribing to Hanna the authorship of the trust plank of 1900, which Mr. Foraker wrote. There is no evidence that Mr. Foraker ever kept a journal, but his letter files are clearly those of a modern and successful lawyer and ought to be preserved. His facsimiles are more useful than those of most biographies. But the great value of the book is in its psychological display of a statesman of the last generation who is proud of his career and who defies the forces that have displaced him.

FREDERIC L. PAXSON

*Circuit-rider days in Indiana.* By William Warren Sweet, professor of history, DePauw university. (Indianapolis: W. K. Stewart company, 1916. 344 p. \$1.50)

Some years ago Mr. Sweet came into possession of the official records of the old Indiana conference. The first session of this conference met at New Albany, October 17, 1832, with eighteen circuit riders present and Bishop Joshua Soule in the chair. The last session was held at Crawfordsville, October 18, 1843, with Bishop James O. Andrew presiding and Matthew Simpson secretary. There were ninety-three preachers ready to answer the first roll call. The minutes published by Mr. Sweet thus cover a period of eleven years. The great problem of the church during this period was that of organization. As the settlements spread to the north the church had to gather its adherents into classes, circuits, and districts. In the first conference there were five districts, one being missionary. Eleven years later there were sixteen districts. This period of remarkable growth is covered by the book under review. Besides the ordinary work of the church its principal activities during the period were the organization of Sunday schools, furnishing Bibles to the settlers, publishing tracts and newspapers, and missionary work. It was an endless task to finance the work. Not only did the working circuit riders have to be supplied but money had to be raised for missions, suppression of vice, negro colonization, aid of superannuated preachers and widows, and various other purposes, not the least of which was education. Covering this period, these minutes furnish one of the best sources for early Indiana history. In publishing them Mr. Sweet has put all the people of Indiana, and especially the Methodists, in his debt.

The first ninety pages of the book are occupied with a historical introduction in which the history of the church is brought down to 1832. In the preparation of this Mr. Sweet has had the advantage of the large collection of material in De Pauw university library including a complete file of the *Western Christian Advocate*. The history of the pioneer Methodist church in Indiana is the story of a valiant struggle. Preparing its history has been a labor of love for Mr. Sweet. He has done it well.

LOGAN ESAREY

*German settlers and German settlements in Indiana.* A memorial for the state centennial, 1916. By Dr. William A. Fritsch. (Evansville, Indiana: W. A. Fritsch, 1915. 62 p. \$.50)

"One half the population of the State," the author believes, "are German or of German descent," and it is because he feels "that they have not received due credit for their share in the development of the state" that he undertakes this study.

From the very beginning when the French came from Canada into what is now Indiana, there were among them men with German names (evidently Germans from Alsace-Lorraine), and when George Rogers Clark took possession of this region for the United States, a German-American Captain Helm, was appointed commander of Vincennes. During the entire territorial period there were Germans who took part in public affairs, and when the state constitution was framed in 1816, a prominent member of the convention was Frederick Rapp, leader of the German communistic settlement at New Harmony. This colony later moved to Pennsylvania but still there remained a large German element in the state as is shown by the number of Indiana newspapers published in German and by the companies in the civil war which were composed almost entirely of Germans from that state.

The part the Germans have played since the civil war in politics, industry, and the professions is shown by reference to individuals. In this way the author has avoided the extravagant claims some others have made for the importance of the Germans. The biographical part of the study is neither as interesting nor as useful as the earlier part of the book.

JESSIE J. KILE

*History of the Illinois Central railroad to 1870.* By Howard Gray Brownson, Ph.D., sometime fellow in economics, University of Illinois. [University of Illinois studies in the social sciences, vol. iv, nos. 3 and 4.] (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1915. 182 p. \$1.25)

One of the most promising tendencies in the study of history in the